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STANDARDS FOR PHILIPPINE LIBRARIES

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services, Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Chiefs of Divisions
All Others Concerned

1. For the information and guidance of all concerned, enclosed is a copy of the **Standards for Philippine Libraries** to be adopted by all libraries nationwide. These standards have been formulated by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) through the Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (PRBFL) as mandated by the Government under Article II, Section 8 of Republic Act (RA) No. 9246 known as the **Philippine Librarianship Act of 2004** *"to adopt policies and standards for all types of libraries, librarians and the practice of librarianship and to come up with minimum standards that define the basic resources required for a functional library in the Philippine setting."*
2. The issuance of these **Standards for Philippine Libraries** aims to improve the access, usage, administration, management and collections of libraries. This will also serve as a reference tool or guidelines to attain quality service and to make the libraries in the country functional.
3. All Regional Directors (RDs) and Schools Division/City Superintendents (SDSs) are enjoined to encourage their school librarians to adopt these standards in order to to render quality service to the pupils/students.
4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Order is desired.

ATTY. ALBERTO T. MUYOT
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge



Encl.:

As stated

To to be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

LIBRARY
POLICY
SCHOOLS

JOVIE: DO Standards for Philippine Libraries
July 15, 2011

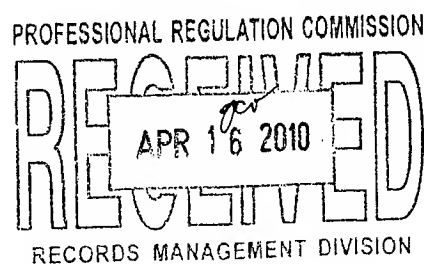
(Enclosure to DepEd Order No. 56, s. 2011)

STANDARDS FOR PHILIPPINE LIBRARIES

BOARD FOR LIBRARIANS

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P R E F A C E

By definition, standards are a measure of quality or value set up by authority, custom, or by general consent to be followed as model or example. As the lone agency mandated by the government to "adopt policies and set the standards for all types of libraries, librarians, and the practice of librarianship" (Republic Act 9246, Article II, Section 8), the Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (PRBFL) of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) comes up with minimum standards that define the basic resources required for a functional library in the Philippine setting. It can serve as a reference tool or guidelines for developing library programs that will eventually attain quality service for all types of libraries in the country.

There have been earnest attempts in the past from the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), now Department of Education (DepEd), the Philippine Universities Audio-Visual Centers (PUAVC), Philippine Association of School Librarians (PASL), and the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Libraries (PAARL) to set up some kind of criteria or guidelines for evaluating school/academic libraries or audiovisual/media centers in the country. It is inevitable that the said efforts have looked to foreign standards, particularly those from the United States, and other developed countries for the manner and underlying principles in setting up their own criteria or guidelines. Likewise, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) standards for the different program requirements were also consulted and referenced.

In coming up with the present standards, the PRBFL initially created ad-hoc committees composed of distinguished librarians belonging to more established libraries/media centers in the public and private sectors to come up and formulate an achievable set of standards. These committees consulted the above mentioned guidelines in order to come up with a more viable and attainable measures for our libraries. They also found actual situations among existing libraries to determine the most realistic criteria that can be adopted for the attainment of the desired adequate service.

We, in the Board are aware of the possible anxieties, misunderstandings, and misgivings that these standards may create. In the eyes of many library managers or administrators, minimum standards can become maximum ones. It is possible that a minimum standard in one library may be fairly adequate for another. And it could also be that these minimum standards are very much below what some libraries already have, so there is a tendency to be complacent and not to upgrade anymore. That is why there is a need for these standards to be adapted to local conditions. It is our fervent desire that all libraries will be able to comply with these minimum standards soonest in the hope of upgrading the status of libraries and of the library profession in the Philippines.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (PRBFL) wishes to acknowledge the various committees convened by the former and the present Boards who made these standards possible. This project was started during the term of Mrs. Susima L. Gonzales, Ms. Leonor B. Gregorio and Mrs. Loreto M. Serina in the Board who created task forces to come up and formulate achievable set of standards for all types of libraries in the country. And so, we would like to thank the distinguished and hard-working members of the **original Ad Hoc Committees** who accepted the challenge and participated in the initial drafting of the standards, namely: Ms. Lopita Crisostomo (St. Mary's Academy, Pasay City), Director Prudenciana C. Cruz (The National Library), Ms. Cecilia B. Guevarra (Arellano University), Ms. Ma. Teresita Ellosa (Dept. of Justice), Mrs. Myrna R. Linsangan (St. Joseph's College, Quezon City), Ms. Shirley L. Nava (Dept. of Justice), Ms. Lillian C. Pajadan (St. Paul College, Pasig), and Mrs. Elizabeth R. Peralejo (Ateneo de Manila University). . .

Likewise, the Board wishes to thank the equally distinguished and hard-working librarians who prepared the final drafts and they are as follows : for **Academic Libraries** - Dr. Nora J. Claravall (Benguet University, now retired), Dr. Teresita G. Hernandez (Centro Escolar University), Mrs. Rebecca M. Jocson (Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila), Mrs. Teresita C. Moran (Ateneo Professional School), and Atty. Antonio M. Santos (UP College of Law); for **Public Libraries** – Director Prudenciana C. Cruz (The National Library), Mr. Sancho A. Domenden (Public Libraries Division, The National Library), and Mrs. Fe F. Requilman (Baguio City Library); for **School Libraries** – Mrs. Leonila S. Galvez (M. Hizon Elementary School), Mrs. Myrna R. Linsangan (St. Joseph's College, Quezon City), Dr. Maria A. Orendain (Philippine Normal University), Mrs. Elizabeth R. Peralejo (Ateneo de Manila University), and Mrs. Teresita D. Santos (UP Integrated School); and for **Special Libraries** – Ms. Helen C. de Castro (Presidential Management Staff, Malacanang), Ms. Erlinda SB. Mimay (Securities and Exchange Commission), Mrs. Milagros S. Ong (Supreme Court), and Mrs. Ma. Luz Salting-Verdejo (Department of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Service Institute Library).

Furthermore, thanks are also due to those who gave their comments and suggestions through letters, e-mails, and during the public fora and hearings conducted by the Board and the Philippine Librarians Association Inc. (PLAI) regional councils, and the Philippine Association for Academic and Research Libraries (PAARL). You may not find your specific inputs in their original or recognizable form in the approved standards, but rest assured that all of them have either been incorporated, refined, or at least, have been given due respect and serious considerations.

INTRODUCTION

Republic Acts Numbers. 6966 and 9246 paved the way towards the professionalization of librarians and the practice of librarianship in the Philippines. It took some time to consolidate all the regulation requirements of the law to formulate these Philippine standards for all the types of libraries. It is very important and necessary to have such set of standards to serve as guides towards the realization of ideals for librarians and information professionals, and specifically, libraries in the country in the complex technological world we are in today.

It is with great pride that the Board has finally formulated a standard for all types of libraries: school library and media centers, academic libraries, special libraries and public libraries. The years of hard work, committee meetings, consultations, fora and research made this up. This labor of love for the profession manifests the commitment of Filipino library professionals towards the realization of higher goals, mission and vision of their respective schools, organizations and institutions.

We cannot over-emphasize the benefits of continuing education and the role of libraries in educating the Filipino youth. Libraries are integral parts of the educational system of the Philippines in providing access to various types of information materials in libraries in different formats available in library media or learning resource centers in schools, colleges and universities, organizations and institutions.

Setting quantitative and qualitative standards set forth in these **Standards for Philippine Libraries** is aimed to improve the access, usage, administration, management and collections of libraries. This will also serve as a reference tool or guidelines towards attaining quality service and to make the libraries in the Philippines functional. Likewise, this will serve as a yardstick to measure the efficiency of libraries, the improvement of library quarters; the quality and cost-effectiveness of office equipment and furniture, and the development and enhancement of collections, and services.

STANDARDS FOR PHILIPPINE LIBRARIES:

SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS

INTRODUCTION

An effective school library media center must reflect the needs of its school population. It must be properly and adequately equipped to meet the needs of the curriculum and the users. In order for it to be a real partner in the attainment of educational goals, a set of standards must be followed. The said standards will apply to elementary and secondary schools in order to assure continuity and quality instruction at all grade/year levels in both the public and private school sectors in the Philippines.

Standard I. Mission, Goals and Objectives

- A. Clearly defined mission, goals and objectives for the school library media center shall be established in terms of the philosophy, goals and objectives of the school.
- B. A set of policies, procedures, rules, and regulations shall be formulated by the library head and staff to ensure consistency in the operation of services.
- C. A written Manual of Operation as well as Student/Faculty Guides shall be maintained and continuously updated to serve as guide to the staff in the implementation of tasks and to the users in the utilization of resources and services.

Standard II. Administration

- A. A unified program integrating library and audiovisual programs under the leadership of a qualified and competent professional is recommended.
- B. Where there are two or more professional librarians, one is appointed as the head to oversee the smooth implementation of services as well as the supervision of personnel.
- D. The school library media center shall be regularly evaluated in terms of its services, personnel and resources, not only by the students but also by the faculty.

Standard III. Human Resources

A. The school library media center shall be appropriately staffed by full time licensed librarians and trained clerical support, the number of which is proportionate to student population.

1. Size

For an enrollment of 500 or less – 1 full time professional librarian + 1 support staff

For an enrollment of 1,000 1 full time professional head librarian/media specialist, 1 full time librarian media specialist + 2 support staff

For an enrollment of 2,000 -- 1 full time professional head librarian/media specialist, 2 full time librarian/media specialist, + 4 support staff

Note : There shall be an additional librarian and two additional support staff for every additional one thousand enrollment.

2. Qualifications

2.1 Professional Librarian – BLS/BLIS graduate or BSE/ BSEEd major or minor in Library Science, or - certified by Board for Librarians (or licensed)

Note : The head librarian/media specialist must have graduate units in Library and Information Science (LIS) or related field (e.g. MA, major in Educational Technology), and 5 years experience in the library.

2.2 Library Assistant/Clerk – College/ secretarial graduate

2.3 Audiovisual Technician – 2 year course in Electronics

The professional/licensed librarian shall be given a faculty status, with corresponding privileges and other benefits comparable to those of the teaching faculty.

Participation in seminar-workshops, conferences and other continuing professional education activities shall be encouraged and subsidized.

Standard IV. Collection Management

A. Collection Development

1. The school library media center shall acquire print, non-print and electronic materials as well as equipment that will support and reinforce the curriculum and meet the needs, abilities and interests of the users.
2. These materials shall be current and in good condition and must reflect an appropriate balance among all types of resources (see Recommended Annual Growth Rate in **Appendix A, p. 12**).
3. The school library media center shall maintain a local history collection composed of materials about the school community, its history, programs, people, etc.
4. The librarian/media specialist, in coordination with the faculty, shall be responsible for the selection and acquisition of all materials based on a written Collection Development Plan.
5. The recommended size of the various collections for an enrollment of less than 1000 students are as follows :
 - A basic collection of **3,000** book titles for the elementary level and **5,000** titles for the secondary level is necessary to support the curricular offerings of the school;
 - Twenty percent (20%) of the total collection shall be published within the last ten (10) years;
 - A basic subscription to 15 titles of general interest magazines and 10 titles of professional journals;
 - A basic subscription to 3 titles of newspapers on national coverage and 1 title with local news coverage;
 - An updated collection of pamphlets, clippings, government documents, vocational information and other materials appropriate to the curriculum and interest of students shall be provided;
 - A starting collection of non-print materials on various formats as follows :
 - 1 map for each geographic region and 1 special map (i.e. economic, weather, political, historical, etc.) for each type

being studied. The number of duplicates will be determined by the number of sections that will be using the map at the same time.

- 2 globes
 - 100 titles of video recordings on different subject areas
 - 200 titles of sound recordings on different types of music
 - 15 titles of slide sets
 - 25 titles of transparency sets
 - 50 titles of electronic resources (e.g. CD-ROMs, audio books, etc.)
 - an acquisition of 1000 pieces representing pictures, charts, study prints, photographs and other types of graphic materials
- A variety of audiovisual equipment available in amounts quantity adequate to serve the instructional program of the school.

B. Selection and Organization

1. Book selection shall be a shared responsibility among the librarians, teachers and administrators;
2. Basic policies for the selection of printed and non-printed materials shall be formally and clearly formulated;
3. All print and non-print materials and equipment shall be properly organized, stored, and displayed following standard rules and procedures of cataloging and classification for easy retrieval and dissemination;
4. An inventory and weeding of the collection shall be conducted regularly.

C. Preservation and Security

The school library media center shall have a program for the care and preservation of all its collection. It should also have an adequate safeguard against loss, mutilation, and theft.

Standard V. Services and Utilization

- A. The school library media center shall be open before, during and after classes to meet the needs of the clientele and maximize the use of library resources, facilities and services.

- B. Announcements of acquisition and other promotional activities shall be made periodically.
- C. Coordination with the faculty shall be done to promote effective use of the school library media center.
- D. Instruction on the effective use of the library media center and on various information sources shall be given to the students as well as to the faculty.
- E. The school library media center shall be available for use by individual students and by class groups throughout the school day. Flexible scheduling enables the teacher to bring his class to the library at the time best suited for the purpose of class supervised research.

Standard VI. Physical Facilities

- A. The school library media center shall be housed in a barrier-free and flexible facility that can accommodate a seating capacity of 10% of the total student population.
- B. The library shall provide a storage space for the print collection, a reading area, a workroom and a store room, an office for the head librarian/media center coordinator, as well as a space for formal library instruction.
- C. In schools where the library is also a media center, space shall be provided for listening and viewing, as well as for the storage, distribution and repair of audiovisual materials and equipment.
- D. The school library media center shall be appropriately equipped with attractive and, at the same time, functional furniture to make it inviting to young users (**Appendix B, p. 13 - 14**).

Standard VII. Information Technology Facilities and Services

The school library and media center shall have facilities for information technology and communication services.

Standard VIII. Financial Resources

- A. The school shall provide adequate funds for staffing and sufficient funds to acquire resources and supplies in support of the school library media center programs.
- B. To sustain the library's growth and development, a library/AV fee shall be collected, reviewed periodically and updated whenever necessary.
- C. Funds shall be administered by the librarians and apportioned according to the needs of the school curriculum.
- D. Funds shall be budgeted for staff development; investment in new and improved means of information access and delivery shall also be allocated.

Standard IX. Linkages and Networking

- A. The school library media center shall participate in resource sharing networks in order to increase the opportunities to intensify the collection and services.
- B. The school library media center shall establish linkages with other resource centers in the vicinity/community (e.g. barangay, public and special libraries) where students can be referred to for research and additional sources of information.

Appendix A

RECOMMENDED GROWTH RATE OF COLLECTION

For

SCHOOL LIBRARY and MEDIA CENTERS

Dewey Decimal Classification	Percentage of Increase	Exemplary Standards
000-099 General works	4%	B E Y O N D R E C O G N I Z E D S T A N D A R D S
100-199 Philosophy	1%	
200-299 Religion	4%	
300-399 Social sciences	10%	
400-499 Languages	1%	
500-599 Pure Sciences	10%	
600-699 Applied Sciences	10%	
700-799 Fine Arts & Recreation	6%	
800-899 Literature	10%	
910-929 Geography/travel/Biography	6%	
900-999 History	8%	
Fiction	15%	
Filipiniana	<u>15%</u>	
	100%	

Appendix B

**FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT STANDARD FOR
SCHOOL LIBRARY AND MEDIA CENTERS**

ITEMS	NUMBER OF UNITS	SPECIFICATIONS
Reading tables	Number that can accommodate 15-25% of the enrollment	Elementary: 0.71 m (H) x 0.91 m (W) x 0.91 m (L) Secondary: 0.75 m (H) x 0.90 m (W) x 1.8 m (L)
Armless chairs	Same as above	37 cm (W), 43.5 cm (D), height of back rest -43 cm Total height: 89 cm
Librarian's table		1.22 m (W) x 0.66 m (L) x 0.76 m (H)
Librarian's chair		47 cm (W), 43.5 cm (D), height of back rest -43 cm Total height: 89 cm
Charging desk/circulation	Depending on the design	Simple and functional in design with space provided for filling trays for book cards and shelved for returned books. It should also be designed with provision for computers for circulation. The desk may be counter height or sitting height
Card catalog with trays	Will depend on the collection	With handle label holder and rod with 36 trays 0.90 m(W), 1.18 m (H), 0.45 m (D)
Periodical index cabinet		Same as card catalog cabinet
Shelf list card cabinet		Same as the card catalog cabinet with 12/24/36 trays
Book shelves: Preferably adjustable -single faced -double faced -wall shelves		-30 m (D) x 1.3 m (W) x 0.76 – 1.5 m (H) Height of shelves: - Elem—not more than 1.5 m - HS – not more than 1.8 m The bottom shelf should slope back to facilitate reading call

Vertical file cabinet	Depending on the number of clippings folders	Standard filing cabinet
Magazine rack	Depending on the number of subscription titles	With ten shelves: 0.30 x 0.40 m x 1.52 m (H) in size Or size and design vary
Newspaper display rack	Depending on the number of subscription titles	10 rungs of 0.30 x 0.40 m in size Or size and design vary
Dictionary stand and atlas stand/shelves	Minimum of 3	Slope top with 3 shelves
Storage cabinet		0.40 m (D) x 0.90 m (W) x 1.83 m (H)
Furniture for informal reading		Sofa set ^s and bean bags
Bulletin board	At least 2 or depending on the available space	Cork or magnetic 2.40 (L) x 1.20 m (W)
Step stool	Minimum of 4	Different sizes/heights
Book truck	2 or 3	With shelves and ball caster
Large picture files	Depending on the number of collection	
Large picture files	Depending on the number of collection	Size and design vary
Equipment		
Computers (aside from those installed in the Computer Laboratory)	1 for 1000 enrollment For 100 ⁰ enrollment	- for clerical work - for circulation desk - for OPAC terminals Work stations where students and teachers can use software packages, word-process work, CD-ROM and Internet

Vertical file cabinet	Depending on the number of clippings folders	Standard filing cabinet
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